

REMARKS

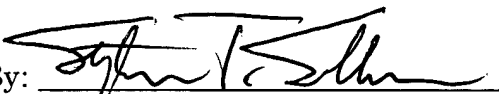
This Preliminary Amendment is submitted voluntarily, prior to the issuance of an Office Action on the merits.¹ Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-6, 9-31, and 35-37 will be pending in this application. Claims 7, 8, and 32-34 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1 and 29 have been voluntarily amended herein to incorporate features of claims 7 and 8. Claim 30 has been voluntarily amended herein to incorporate features of claims 32-34. Approval and entry are respectfully requested.

It is Applicant's understanding that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. If there are fees due, or if there are any other fees due in connection with the prosecution of this application, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 501324.

Date: November 24, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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¹ The Office Action of October 22, 2003 is merely a restriction requirement, and does not substantively address any of the claims, nor does it address any issues relating to patentability.